

REMARKS

Claims 11-33 are pending in this application. Claims 1-10 have been cancelled. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Examiner has indicated that the specification should be updated to clarify the status of all related applications noted in the first paragraph of the specification.

Applicants have amended the first paragraph of the specification to indicate the status of the parent application as "now Patent No. 6,355,021 B1".

The Examiner has objected to claim 25 because of the informality in lines 3-4, "operatin ghandle" which appears to be a typographical error. Applicants have amended claim 25 to recite "operating handle" instead of "operatin ghandle". Applicants have also amended claim 33 to correct a typographical error.

The Examiner has rejected claims 11, 14-18, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30 and 33 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5 of US Patent No. 6, 355,021 B1. Applicants have submitted a terminal disclaimer herewith to overcome the rejection based on the nonstatutory double patenting grounds set forth by the Examiner. Applicants assert that claims 11, 14-18, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30 and 33 herein are patentably distinct from claims 1-5 of US Patent No. 6,355,021 B1 but have filed a terminal disclaimer in order to expedite the allowance of the pending claims.


Applicants filing of the terminal disclaimer for claims 11, 14-18, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, and 33 should also overcome the objection to claims 12, 13, 22, 27, 28, 31 and 32. With the filing of the terminal disclaimer for 11, 14-18, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, and 33, claims 12, 13, 22, 27, 28, 31 and 32 no longer depend from rejected claims.

Having carefully addressed all the objections and rejections of the Examiner in the November 19, 2003 Office Action, it is respectfully asserted that the claims properly define the invention and that the invention is both novel and non-obvious. Allowance of the present claims is earnestly solicited.

Application No. 10/017,789
Response filed March 19, 2004

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the above submissions in more detail, the Examiner is asked to please call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heidi A. Dare", is written over a horizontal line.

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APPENDIX